

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 632

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mrs. Gwen McFarland of Davidson County.

WHEREAS, it was with profound sadness and a deep sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly learned of the passing of Mrs. Gwen McFarland; and

WHEREAS, Gwen McFarland was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McFarland served with acumen and alacrity as a Metropolitan Nashville councilwoman, in which position she earned the respect of her peers and constituents alike for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, a Lawrenceburg native, Gwen adroitly served in Metro Nashville schools for nearly 30 years as a teacher and principal before retiring; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McFarland was an extraordinary educator who inspired her students to imagine a better future and create a better world by encouraging excellence in all aspects of life; and

WHEREAS, at a time in life when most people plan to limit their workdays, Gwen McFarland embarked on a second career as an attorney after she retired from her admirable career as an educator; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McFarland was a lifelong supporter of Tennessee Democratic politics and enjoyed an illustrious career in politics as the President of the National Federation of Democratic Women, and Vice-Chair for the Tennessee Democratic Party from 1984 to 1993; she tirelessly served six, four-year terms as State Democratic Chairwoman, in addition to her estimable tenure on the Metro Nashville Council; and

WHEREAS, Gwen McFarland was a never-ending source of inspiration to those who knew and cherished her, and she was highly regarded as someone completely committed to the utmost ideals of public service; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McFarland enjoyed the loyal companionship of her devoted husband, George H. McFarland; she is also survived by her brother, Clark Nation; her loving children, Anthony J. McFarland and Joni E. Baker; and her beloved three grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Gwen McFarland leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mrs. Gwen McFarland, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment as a public servant to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Gwen McFarland.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.